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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/056,887      | 01/25/2002  | Vincent E. DeGiulio  | 33836000002         | 2876             |

30498 7590 02/09/2007

ACCENTURE  
C/O VEDDER PRICE KAUFMAN & KAMMHOLZ, P.C.  
222 NORTH LASALLE STREET  
CHICAGO, IL 60601

EXAMINER

BURGESS, BARBARA N

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2157

| SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE | MAIL DATE  | DELIVERY MODE |
|--|------------|---------------|
| 3 MONTHS                               | 02/09/2007 | PAPER         |

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

|                              |                                       |  |  |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| <b>Office Action Summary</b> | <b>Application No.</b><br>10/056,887  | <b>Applicant(s)</b><br>DEGIULIO ET AL. |  |
|                              | <b>Examiner</b><br>Barbara N. Burgess | <b>Art Unit</b><br>2157                |  |

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 November 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 and 30-34 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13, 30-34 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                                | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                       | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

### DETAILED ACTION

This Office Action is in response to Election/Restriction filed November 14, 2006.

Applicant has elected Group I, consisting of claims 1-13 and 30-34, with traverse.

Claims 1-13 and 30-34 are presented for further examination.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-13, 30-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Elliott (US Patent 6,509,830 B1).

As per claim 1, Elliott discloses a computer architecture for tracking a plurality of objects, wherein the computer architecture is coupled to a status tracking structure that provides event information regarding at least a portion of the plurality of objects, the computer architecture comprising:

- An event table for storing the event information (column 4, lines 55-67, column 5, column 6, lines 35-67, column 7, lines 1-30);
- A rule execution component, coupled to the event table, that processes the event

information in accordance with at least one rule, wherein the at least one rule tests for non-optimal use of at least one object of the plurality of objects (column 2, lines 1-10, column 10, lines 5-15, 32-49);

- An event engine component, coupled to the status tracking structure and the event table, that receives the event information, stores the event information in the event table and, in response to the receipt of the event information, causes the rule execution component to process the event information in accordance with at least a portion of the at least one rule (column 6, lines 50-67, column 9, lines 50-67, column 11, lines 1-14).

As per claim 2, Elliott discloses the computer architecture of claim 1, further comprising: a configuration engine component, coupled to the rule execution component, that periodically causes the rule execution component to process the event information in accordance with some of the at least one rule (column 10, lines 5-15).

As per claims 3, 12, Elliott discloses the computer architecture of claims 1 and 9, wherein the event information comprises location information corresponding to the plurality of objects (column 2, lines 26-28, column 5, lines 40-45).

As per claims 4, 13, Elliott discloses the computer architecture of claims 1 and 9, wherein the event information comprises environmental information corresponding to the plurality of objects (column 2, lines 26-28).

As per claim 5, Elliott discloses a computer architecture for tracking a plurality of objects, wherein the computer architecture is coupled to a status tracking structure that provides event information regarding at least a portion of the plurality of objects, the computer architecture comprising:

- An event table for storing the event information (column 4, lines 55-67, column 5, column 6, lines 35-67, column 7, lines 1-30);
- A rule execution component, coupled to the event table, that processes the event information in accordance with at least one rule, wherein at least one rule tests for non-optimal use of at least one object of the plurality of objects (column 6, lines 50-67, column 9, lines 50-67, column 11, lines 1-14);
- A configuration engine component, coupled to the rule execution component, that periodically causes the rule execution component to process the event information in accordance with at least a portion of the at least one rule (column 5, lines 40-61, column 11, lines 20-35).

As per claim 6, Elliott discloses the computer architecture of claim 5, wherein the at least one rule comprises at least two rules, and wherein configuration engine component associates at least two execution frequencies with the at least two rules such that a portion of the at least two rules is executed with a frequency different from other rules of the at least two rules (column 10, lines 30-49).

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As per claim 7, Elliott discloses the computer architecture of claim 5 wherein the event information comprises location information corresponding to the plurality of objects (column 2, lines 26-28, column 5, lines 40-45).

As per claim 8, Elliott discloses the computer architecture of claim 5 wherein the event information comprises environmental information corresponding to the plurality of objects (column 2, lines 26-28).

As per claim 9, Elliott discloses a computer architecture for tracking a plurality of objects, wherein the computer architecture is coupled to a status tracking structure that provides event information regarding at least a portion of the plurality of objects, the computer architecture comprising:

- An event table for storing the event information (column 4, lines 55-67, column 5, column 6, lines 35-67, column 7, lines 1-30);
- A rule storage component (column 4, lines 64-67, column 5);
- A rule execution component, coupled to the event table and the rule storage component, that processes the event information in accordance with at least one rule stored in the rule storage component, and wherein the rule storage component permits modification of any of the at least one rule independent of the rule execution component, wherein the at least one rule tests for non-optimal use of at least one object of the plurality of objects (column 6, lines 35-67, column 8, lines 15-40, column 10, lines 30-49).

As per claim 10, Elliott discloses the computer architecture of claim 9, further comprising:

an event engine component, coupled to the status tracking structure and the event table, that receives the event information, stores the event information in the event table and, in response, causes the rule execution component to process the event information in accordance with at least one immediate rule of the at least one rule (column 9, lines 57-67, column 10, lines 16-47).

As per claim 11, Elliott discloses the computer architecture of claim 9, further comprising:

a configuration engine component, coupled to the rule execution component, that periodically causes the rule execution component to process the event information in accordance with at least one periodic rule of the at least one rule (column 9, lines 57-67, column 10, lines 16-47, 50-55).

As per claim 30, Elliott discloses in a system for tracking a plurality of objects comprising a tracking manager coupled to a status tracking structure that provides event information regarding at least a portion of the plurality of objects, a method in the tracking manager comprising:

- Receiving the event information (column 7, lines 7-30, column 9, lines 57-65, column 10, lines 1-15);

- Processing the event information in accordance with at least one immediate rule in response to receipt of the event information, wherein the at least one rule tests for non-optimal use of at least one object of the plurality of objects (column 10, lines 30-49, column 11, lines 4-15).

As per claim 31, Elliott discloses the method of claim 30, wherein processing of the event information further comprises processing the event information in accordance with periodic rules of the at least one rule (column 5, lines 63-67, column 6, lines 1-5).

As per claim 32, Elliott discloses the method of claim 30 wherein the event information comprises location information corresponding to the plurality of objects (column 2, lines 26-28, column 5, lines 40-45).

As per claim 33, Elliott discloses the method of claim 30 wherein the event information comprises environmental information corresponding to the plurality of objects (column 2, lines 26-28).

As per claim 34, Elliott discloses a computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions stored thereon for performing the method of claim 30 (column 3, lines 35-67).



### **Response to Arguments**

**The Office notes the following argument(s):**

- (a) Examiner does not establish independent or distinct inventions.
- (b) Examiner does not establish a serious burden for the restriction being applied.

3. Applicant's arguments filed have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

**In response to:**

(a) Claims 1-13, 30-34 (Group I) and 17-19, 26-29, 42-52 (Group II) are drawn to distinct inventions. Claims 1-13, 30-34 (Group I) require a computer architecture having an event engine component. This feature is not at all required for Group II.

Claims 17-19, 26-29, 42-52 (Group II) require an alert table, an event dispatcher.

These features are not at all required for Group I.

(b) Based on the distinctiveness as shown above, the two groups are classified in separate subclasses. The Examiner would have to search the separate subclasses thoroughly for the distinct features.

### **Conclusion**

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Barbara N. Burgess whose telephone number is (571) 272-3996. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:00am-4:00pm).

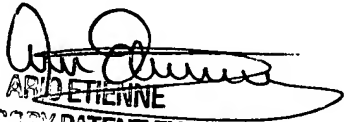
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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ario Ettinene can be reached on (571) 272-4001. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Barbara N Burgess  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2157

February 4, 2007

  
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